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NOAA WEEK

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Max A. Kohler Is Named To NWS Hydrology Post



Max A. Kohler has been appointed National Weather Service Associate Director for Hydrology. He has filled the position on an acting basis since William E. Hiatt retired from it on January 8.

In this capacity, he will head up the NWS river and flood forecasting program.

A native of Lincolnville, Kans., Mr. Kohler received a bachelor of science degree in physics from the University of New Mexico in June 1939. He began his government service 32 years ago working summers for the Soil Conservation Service and the Indian Service in Albuquerque, N.M.

In January 1940, Mr. Kohler began his weather career as a Meteorologist Intern at Roswell, N.M. After a year there and another year in Los Angeles, he was transferred to Weather Service headquarters in Washington, D. C., as a Junior Hydrologic Engineer. In 1942, he went to work in the Office of the Hydrologic Director as Assistant Hydrologic Engineer, and after four years was named head Hydrologic Engineer in a research unit of the Office of Hydrology. Two years later he was promoted to chief of that unit.

In 1953, he was named Chief Research Hydrologist. Early in 1965 he was named Chief Hydrologist, and since 1969 he has also been serving as Director of the Research and Development Laboratory in the Office of Hydrology.

Mr. Kohler has been very active in the World Meteorological Organization and has served as President of its Commission for Hydrometeorology (1961-68). He was President of the American Geophysical Union's Section of Hydrology from 1968-70. He is now chairman-elect of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's

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Miami Reef Almost Dead, FLARE Scientists Report

A coral reef off Miami Beach--subjected both to siltation and to sewage pollution--is nearly colorless, almost devoid of the algae that nourishes coral life, and largely dead.

These observations were made by aquanauts returning to the surface after three days of exploration of the reef, as part of the Florida Aquanaut Research Expedition. Physiologist Dr. J. Morgan Wells, of the University of North Carolina's Wrightsville Biomedical Laboratory, and marine biologist John G. VanDerwalker, of NOAA's Manned Undersea Science and Technology office, studied 800 feet of the reef, comparing it with relatively unpolluted coral reefs studied during an earlier phase of FLARE and during previous scientific expeditions throughout the world.

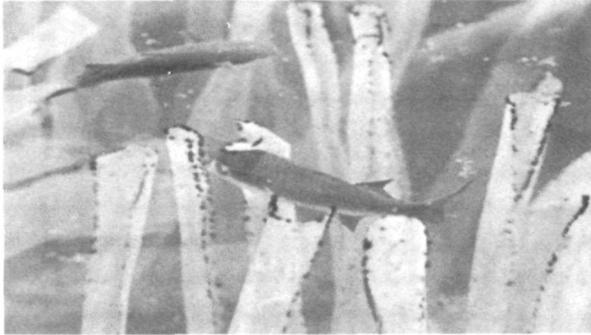
The two diver-scientists concluded that the raw sewage flowing near the research site probably makes only a secondary contribution to the reef's deterioration.

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(From left, facing the camera) William Magruder, Special Consultant to the President, Congressman Charles A. Mosher of Ohio, member of the Subcommittee on Oceanography of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, and Howard W. Pollock, NOAA Deputy Administrator, were interviewed by the press during their February 24 visit to the FLARE project.

Sea Grant Scientists Achieve Controlled Mullet Reproduction



Mullet graze on artificial weed bed composed of strips of floating plastic.

Dr. Ziad H. Shehadeh and his colleagues at the Oceanic Institute, Waimanalo, Hawaii, working under a NOAA Sea Grant, have achieved controlled reproduction of mullet--including spawning the fish in September, five months earlier than the natural mullet spawning season of January and February.

This accomplishment brings into the foreseeable future commercial breeding and farming of this major food fish used extensively in large areas of the world.

The achievements of the group--which receives financial aid from the Rockefeller Foundation as well as from NOAA's Sea Grant, include successful breeding of wild fish using a variety of hormone preparations and dosages; and development of a precise, highly accurate method for determining the time to inject hormone into the fish and several methods for inducing maturation in captive fish, including surgery, photoperiod control, hormone injection, and management of diet, shelter, and waterflow.

The group also discovered that exact timing of a process known as hydration (absorption of water) makes it possible to obtain viable eggs (a result that previously eluded researchers) and how hormones could regulate the process.

To enable the larvae to survive through the critical period three days after hatching, Dr. Shehadeh and his associates used an upwelling system in the tanks to prevent larval settling. They achieved survival rates ranging up to 70 percent instead of the previous 0.5-5.0 percent.

Efforts are now underway further to refine the techniques so far developed, to examine the possibility of transferring these techniques to other commercially important fish species. Successful achievement of their ends, the Oceanic Institute team believes, could help meet the protein deficiency in many parts of the world.

International Aviation Forecasts Available to Many NWS Offices

Culminating several years of planning, aviation area forecasts are now available on Request-Reply from the Weather Message Switching Center (WMSC) in Kansas City, Mo.

Stored in the WMSC computers, and available upon request by either dedicated full-time circuits, or by request-reply circuits that serve a number of National Weather Service offices in the contiguous 48 states, are the latest forecasts for the Caribbean, Central America, most of the contiguous 48 states, the North Atlantic, and a major portion of the Pacific.

According to Ralph James, Chief of the NWS Aviation Branch, the new procedure gives all NWS field offices a capability many did not have previously--that of being able to provide, in a minimum time, the best possible forecasts for international flights.

International flights no longer originate exclusively at regular international airports or from airports near the coasts of our country, and more and more weather offices at inland airports are finding it necessary to be able to provide forecasts for such flights. Many offices at these airports have only minimum equipment, and usually do not receive the aviation meteorological facsimile charts prepared for service to international aviation.

The forecasts consist of grid-point winds and temperatures aloft, plus "significant weather" forecast information for specific areas. The grid-point information is prepared by computers at the NWS National Meteorological Center in Suitland, Md., whose operation is under the supervision of Harold Bedient, Chief of the NMC Data Automation Division.

The "significant weather" information is provided by the Aviation Weather Forecast Branch of the NMC, under Julius Badner, and by Forecast Offices in Miami, Fla.; San Juan, P.R.; Mexico City, Mex.; Tegucigalpa, Honduras; and Bogota, Columbia.

William M. Paggi Dies

William M. Paggi, who had been the Principal Assistant at the Weather Service Office in Charleston, S.C., for the past 11 years, died on February 22. Mr. Paggi joined the Weather Service in 1946 at Flagstaff, Ariz., after serving as a weather officer in the Air Force during World War II. He served in Akron, Ohio, before being assigned to Charleston. His widow resides at 1031 North Shem Drive, Mount Pleasant, S.C. 29464.

New NWS Radar, Observatory Dedicated at Neenah, Wisc.

The new National Weather Service Meteorological Observatory at Neenah, Wisc., was dedicated on February 16.

Participating in the ceremonies were Charles G. Knudsen, Director, NWS Central Region; Dr. Sidney Teweles, Chief, NWS Data Acquisition Division, who was the principal speaker; and Max Griffith, Meteorologist In Charge of the new WSMO.

Among the more than 50 guests were Neenah's Mayor, Roman Hauser; James A. Gruentzel, of the Wisconsin Division of Emergency Government, who represented the Governor of the State; Edwin S. Addison III, MIC Madison, Wisc., WSO; Rheinhart W. Harms, MIC Milwaukee, WSO; and Robert E. Cardinal, OIC Green Bay, Wisc., WSO.

The new long range weather radar--the first installed in Wisconsin--will provide a link with other network radars at Minneapolis to the west, Des Moines to the southwest, Chicago to the south, and Detroit to the east-southeast. This radar surveillance will enable NWS offices in the area to provide better warning service of thunderstorms, tornadoes, and locally heavy rains.

The radar is equipped with a video integrator processor (VIP) which will enable the staff to detect and follow the intense precipitation areas that often reveal the whereabouts of severe storms, and with WBRR radar remoting equipment, by which the detailed picture available in Neenah is transmitted to distant cities.

In addition to MIC Griffith, the observatory staff consists of George Grimm, William Hill, Millard Landers, and James Smith (meteorological technician-radar specialists); Marvin Wycoff (senior electronic technician); and Benjamin Swafford (electronic technician).



(Front) G.Grimm. (Standing, from left) J.Smith, W. Hill, C. Knudsen, M.Wycoff, Dr. Teweles, B. Swafford, M.Griffith, and M. Landers.

Dr. William R. Royce Will Head Fisheries Resource Research

Dr. William F. Royce, Associate Dean of the School of Fisheries, University of Washington, Seattle, since 1967, has been appointed Associate Director for Resource Research in the National Marine Fisheries Service.



Dr. Royce was with the Federal fisheries service from 1942 until 1958 when he left to become Professor of Fisheries and Director of the University of Washington's Fisheries Research Institute. He frequently acted as a fisheries

consultant to a number of developing nations in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East. For several months during 1967, while on leave from the University, he was in Rome as fishery officer for the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization, advising on fishery education and training programs in East Africa. He was also an advisor on salmon problems to the United States section of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission.

He received his B.S. in 1937 and Ph.D. in 1942 from Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. His major field of graduate study was vertebrate zoology and he also did graduate work in mathematics at the University of Hawaii and statistics at the University of Florida.

In his new position, Dr. Royce will be responsible for overall management of resource research and development at NMFS Fisheries Centers comprising about 50 laboratories and field stations and aboard 30 fishery research vessels, and involving directly or indirectly activities of more than 775 scientific, professional, technical, and other support personnel.

Dr. Royce will maintain personal contact at all levels of government, and with industrial, academic and research organizations and will keep thoroughly informed on fishery research and development in both the United States and foreign countries.

He is the author of 60 professional publications, including a major textbook, "Introduction to the Fishery Sciences," scheduled for release this month.

Dr. Royce is a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists, and the International Institute of Fishery Scientists, and a member of nine technical societies.

Forecasters Training Course Is Held at NWS Headquarters



Pictured above are the participants in the Forecasters Training Course held at the National Weather Service Headquarters from February 15-March 2.

They are, front row, from left to right: George Yanskey, Boise, Ida.; Robert Massey, Portland, Oreg.; Hugh Peace, Jackson, Miss.; Olin Houston, National Meteorological Center; John Quadros, Washington, D.C.; John Burgett, National Environmental Satellite Service; George Schielein, Albany, N.Y.

Standing, left to right: Dr. Duane Cooley, NWS Headquarters; Bedford Brown, San Juan, P.R.; Gilbert Clark, Miami, Fla.; David Theophilus, Souix Falls, S. Dak.; Hiroshi Iguchi, Anchorage, Alaska; James Buchanan,

Chicago, Ill.; Perry Baker, Des Moines, Iowa; Jack Hollis, Little Rock, Ark.; Arthur Sturm, Philadelphia, Pa.; Shafer Case, Charleston, W. Va.; Eugene Larcom, Seattle, Wash.; Kenneth Carroll, Raleigh, N.C.; George Gregg, Albuquerque, N.M.; Richard Sheffield, Buffalo, N.Y.; Ernest Paroczay, NMC; Elmer Chadsey, Honolulu, Hawaii; Maynard Renfrow, Louisville, Ky.; Professor Robert Renard, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif.; Claire Jensen, San Francisco, Calif.; Paul Jacobs, NMC; Frederick Ostby, NWS Headquarters (Instructor); Robert Derouin, NWS Headquarters (Instructor); Maury Pautz, NWS Headquarters (Instructor).

Plastic Probes Simplify Soil Frost Data Collection

The routine collection of soil frost data in Minnesota and neighboring areas has been made possible by a network of 34 soil frost probes which permit quick measurements of frost depth. Supported by the Corps of Engineers and coordinated by Joseph H. Strub, Jr., Meteorologist in Charge at Minneapolis, the network extends from northwestern Wisconsin through Minnesota to northeastern North Dakota and includes parts of South Dakota, Iowa, and upper Michigan. The probe consists of a plastic tube buried to a depth of five feet, with an easily removed inner clear-plastic tube containing water, sand, and a bit of blue dye. The water freezes to the depth of soil frost and the length of the frozen column shows the depth of frost.

Soil frost is often vitally important in its effect on the runoff of melting snow or rain. Lack of good data on depth and duration of soil frost has handicapped construction, design of buildings, highway maintenance, and agricultural planning.

In Wisconsin the "cemetery network" has been reporting the depth of frost encountered by gravediggers for about 10 years. The data are collected and summarized by the State Climatologist, Hans Rosendal.

Financial Management Field Career Management Program Begins

The Career Management Program for the Financial Management Field is now in operation. Effective February 4, 1972, Vacancy Announcements will not be issued to publicize available positions in the following series: GS-501, 504, 505, 510, 520, 525, 530, 540, and 560. Positions in these series will be filled from a list of eligibles who have registered in the Career Management Program. Eligible employees must be registered in this program to receive promotional and other career-oriented considerations here in NOAA and throughout the Department of Commerce.

A similar program is already in operation for the Personnel Administration Field. Employees eligible for positions in Grades 5 and above in the following series must be registered in this program to receive consideration for available positions: GS-201, 212, 221, 223, 230, and 235.

Eligible employees in the Washington Metropolitan Area who have not registered in these programs may contact Mrs. LeCompt^{er} AD46, Room 316, NBOC #2 (telephone 14-68373) for registration forms. Field employees should contact their own personnel office.

Strong Winds Batter Boulder-- Denver WSFO Issues Warnings

Strong, gusty downslope winds were abnormally frequent along the eastern slopes of the Rockies during January 1972. Hardest hit was the Boulder, Colo., area, where storm damages during January 11 and 12 exceeded one million dollars.

The Weather Service Forecast Office at Denver, Colo., under leadership of Meteorologist In Charge Marshall F. Grace, which has responsibility for issuing warnings and forecasts covering these downslope winds, began issuing warnings and statements at 9:10 a.m. MST on January 11. Two hours later the winds first gusted above 60 mph in Boulder. A statement from the WSFO, Denver, at 11:30 a.m. MST indicated that "the winds will be very intense and more widespread than any in a long time." This was well forecast, as peak gusts exceeded 60 mph in each hourly period through the remainder of that day and even after midnight, with the very highest gusts reaching 90 mph in early afternoon and again a bit after dark. Strong winds were reported elsewhere along the eastern slopes of the Rockies in Colorado and also in Wyoming, but Boulder experienced the worst wind--the most damaging wind storm on record, in fact.

Contributing to the forecasts was an objective forecast procedure developed by Dr. Wayne E. Sangster of the Scientific Services Division at Central Region Headquarters and being tested at Denver. Dr. Sangster used screening regression techniques to isolate and evaluate the significant surface and upper air parameters. The method is still under development with the principal problem being inadequate data in this mountain region.

New Data Buoy Center Director Is Welcomed



James W. Winchester (left) new director of the National Data Buoy Center, is welcomed to the Center at the Mississippi Test Facility by Commander W. L. King.

New Weather Radar System Observes Storm Circulation

A new weather radar system developed by the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, Oklahoma, has indicated that a storm's tornadic potential may be recognized up to forty minutes before a tornado develops.

According to Dr. Edwin Kessler, director of the NSSL, "This Doppler radar tells us what's going on where inside a storm. It observes and records circulation inside a storm--and, if there's not circulation, there's not a tornado.

"Operational use of Doppler radar would take some of the guesswork out of tornado predictions. Doppler studies promise an extremely important and exciting future role for Doppler radar in severe storm research."

In the December 1971 issue of the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, meteorologists Rodger A. Brown and Kenneth C. Crawford, with systems analyst William C. Bumgarner and design engineer Dale Sirmans, describe how last spring, a tornado-prone zone was identified long before the "birth" of the tornado with only one Doppler radar. The laboratory's Doppler data of June 2, 1971, showed a counterclockwise circulation associated with an indentation in a developing hook echo. This indentation was indicative of tornadic potential, and a funnel cloud did form beneath the cyclonic vortex observed by the radar some 40 minutes after the initial observations.

With two or three Doppler radars probing the same storm, meteorologists could work out the true velocity and direction of the winds within it. The NSSL scientists expect to have two more Dopplers in the next few years. Computer programs now being developed at the laboratory will accept data from an unlimited number of Doppler radars.

Max Kohler (Continued from page 1)

Section on Atmospheric and Hydrospheric Sciences and a Member of the Council of the American Meteorological Society.

In 1949, Mr. Kohler received a Commerce Department Silver Medal (together with Messrs. Foskett and Linsley) for his part in development of an electronic flood-routing machine, and in 1959 a Gold Medal for outstanding service.

In 1951, the Washinton (D.C.) Academy of Sciences selected Mr. Kohler for its engineering award "in recognition of his distinguished investigations of rainfall, runoff, flood predictions, and related subjects."

A NASA photo

OEP Commends R.J. Stralka For Disaster Study Group Work

Raymond J. Stralka, a meteorologist in the National Weather Service Emergency Warnings Branch, Weather Analysis and Prediction Division, has been awarded a citation by the Office of Emergency Preparedness, Executive Office of the President.

In a letter to Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Administrator, G.A. Lincoln, Director of OEP, commended Mr. Stralka's "dedicated and outstanding professional service, and singular contribution to the Public Law 91-606 Disaster Study Group of the Office of Emergency Preparedness." Mr. Stralka, who was detailed to OEP from his regular duties to provide professional expertise in the environmental aspects of the disaster study report to the Congress, played a major role in the development and preparation of those phases of the report concerned with meteorological phenomena such as fire weather service, tornadoes, hurricanes, droughts, and frosts and freezes.

NMFS Awards Grant to Florida To Re-Establish Oyster Reefs

The National Marine Fisheries Service has made a \$200,000 resource disaster grant to the State of Florida to help establish new, permanent and productive oyster reefs in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties, where the oyster resource was destroyed by a parasitic fungus disease. The funds were made available under provisions of the Commercial Fisheries Research and Development Act of 1964, which NMFS administers.

More than 110 acres of oyster reefs were affected, and 147 oyster men and shuckers lost a large portion of their incomes because of the loss of about 38,000 bushels of harvestable oysters valued at about \$300,000 at retail. Not included in these totals are the small oysters expected to mature for the 1973-74 season, the probable shortage of seed oysters for the next few years or the overall damage to the oyster environment.

The Florida Department of Natural Resources will re-establish the oyster beds.

FLARE (Continued from page 1)

Siltation, they feel, contributes primarily to the abnormal conditions of the reef by preventing penetration of essential sunlight through the upper layers of the water.

Other characteristics of the reef ecosystem noted by the two aquanauts were:

--Large portions of the reef are dead, with death probably occurring as recently as the last decade;

--The marine inhabitants of this reef differ markedly in species composition from those usually found in and around coral reefs;

--Impressive populations of lobsters--definitely in commercial quantities--are present on the reef;

--Four-to-six-foot long barracudas are present in unusual profusion all over the reef;

--Almost no juvenile fish were seen, only adults.

In sum, they said, the ecosystem of the Miami Beach reef is dramatically different from ecosystems of other reefs in Florida and elsewhere in the world.

This most recently completed FLARE study, undertaken Feb. 21-24, is the fourth in a series of nine marine scientific assessments of coral reef environment and life cycles around southeast Florida. The scientific team used the small habitat EDALHAB as their underwater home and laboratory, with life support supplied by the mother ship LULU operated by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution under contract to NOAA.

The purpose of the Wells-VanDerwalker investigation was to compare the environment of a reef (the "community metabolism") under the influence of man-induced pollutants with that of a relatively unspoiled reef earlier examined by Dr. Wells and his oceanographer wife, Anna, on the second FLARE mission. The two reefs--the first off Elliott Key in the Upper Florida Keys, the second slightly north of Government Cut, the Port of Miami--were thought to be logical bases for comparison because of intrinsic scientific similarities.

Immediately after Wells and VanDerwalker emerged from recompression (February 25), the LULU carried EDALHAB and a new team of diver scientists to the site for the next FLARE project, at Pacific Reef off Key Largo. At Pacific Reef, the fifth team--marine biologists Harold L. Pratt, Jeffrey O'Neill, and Frank W. Steimle, Jr., of NOAA's Narragansett Sport Fisheries Laboratory (R.I.)--descended to the seafloor on February 26, for four days of monitoring a small artificial reef made of about 200 discarded automobile tires and emplaced at the site about a month ago. The study should reveal important facts concerning similarities and differences between artificial and natural reefs, and could lead to increased use of artificial reefs in coastal waters.

After the fifth project was completed, the two craft returned to a shipyard in Miami for three weeks of repair and overhauling.

W.M. Rowe, W.R. Krumm, H.R. McQueen, and E.C. Hunter Retire

William M. Rowe, Principal Assistant at the Weather Service Forecast Office in Memphis, Tenn., has retired, after completing over 34 years of weather service. He started his career as a Junior Observer at Memphis in 1937 and served at Pittsburgh, Pa., Tallahassee, Fla., and Washington, D.C., before returning to Memphis in 1944. He became FAWS Supervisor in 1946 and has been Principal Assistant since 1962.

He received his B.S. in Chemistry at State Teacher's College, Memphis, and an M.S. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and a professional member of the American Meteorological Society.

Mr. Rowe and his wife, Dorothea, reside at 1744 York Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104.



Wilbert R. (Bill) Krumm, Regional Fire-Weather Meteorologist at Western Region Headquarters of the National Weather Service in Salt Lake City, Utah, retired on March 3. His more than three decades in the fire-weather program in the Region have earned him the nickname of Mr. Fire-Weather.

He first began fire-weather forecasting at Mt. Shasta, Calif., in 1938, and was subsequently assigned to San Francisco, Calif., Boise, Idaho, and Missoula, Mont. In 1960 he was designated Western Fire-Weather Coordinator, with headquarters at Missoula. In 1967 he was awarded the Department of Commerce Silver Medal for outstanding competence and achievement in developing a fire-weather program in the West. His dealings with the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and State Foresters, and other agencies, contributed substantially to the efficiency and progress of the fire-weather program. He accepted the "Golden Smokey" award (on the right in the photo above) for the NWS at the annual meeting of the National Association of State Foresters in 1968. This is the highest award given for organizational support in the fire-control program.

Henry R. McQueen, Meteorologist In Charge of the Atlanta, Ga., Weather Service Forecast Office for the past ten years, retired on January 28 after 43 years of weather service.



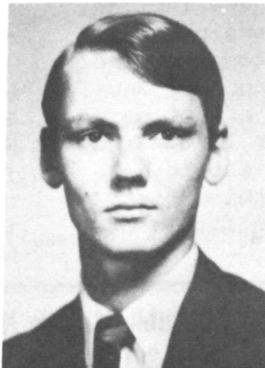
He began his career in Kansas City, Mo., and his subsequent assignments, before going to Atlanta, included Newark, N.J.; LaGuardia Field, L.I., N.Y.; Dundalk, Md., where he originated the Weather Bureau's Trans-Atlantic Forecasting Service; Seattle, where he also completed his schooling and was the first student to graduate with a B.S. in meteorology from the University of Washington; Shannon Airport and Limerick, Ireland, where he was on loan to the Irish Meteorological Services to train Irish Meteorologists in overseas forecasting; the American Embassy in London, England; San Francisco, Calif.; Battle Creek, Mich., where he worked with the Headquarters Office of Civil Defense; and Washington, D. C.

Eleanor C. Hunter, a Cartographic Technician in the Photogrammetry Division of the National Ocean Survey, retired on February 29 after 30 years of Government service.

Mrs. Hunter began her career in the U.S. Navy's Bureau of Personnel in 1942, and later that year transferred to the Navy Hydrographic Office, where she learned cartographic work. In 1944 she transferred to the Coast and Geodetic Survey (predecessor of the NOS), where she worked on aeronautical charts and nautical charts before going into the Photogrammetry Division.

Mrs. Hunter was born in Baltimore, Md., and raised in Washington, D. C.

Lt. Langdon Will Head Gravity Party G-52



Lieutenant Charles H. Langdon is the new chief of the National Geodetic Survey's gravity party G-52. A member of the NOAA commissioned corps since 1969, Lt. Langdon previously served aboard the NOAA Ship DISCOVERER and with several field parties.

His party is now conducting a gravity survey of Imperial Valley, Calif.



notes about people...

Frank A. Blust, Chief Engineer of the Lake Survey Center's Marine Mapping and Charting Division, has been appointed by the International Great Lakes Levels Board to the Board's Working Committee, which is engaged in studies of regulating the levels of the Great Lakes as required by a Reference from the Governments of Canada and the U.S. to the International Joint Commission.

At the recent International Symposium on Bering Sea Studies in Hakodate, Japan, Dr. E. Paul McClain, Director of the Environmental Sciences Group of the National Environmental Satellite Service presented a paper entitled "Environmental Earth Satellites Useful for Oceanographic-Meteorologic Studies of the Bering Sea." Before his return to the U.S., he also lectured at the Japan Meteorological Agency in Tokyo.



John Taboniar, weather service specialist at the Weather Service Office in Kahului, was named the "Outstanding Young Public



Servant" for 1971-72 by the Maui Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees). He was cited for excellence in service to the community in the performance of his duties with the National Weather Service and for his active participation in community affairs, which include being president of the Pukalani Community Association. He also has been active in the Kiwanis Operation Drug Alert program.

He entered the weather service in 1961 after serving four years in the Air Weather Service, and was assigned to Canton Island and Eniwetok before transferring to the Kahului office in 1965.

Dr. J. Murray Mitchell, Jr., The Environmental Data Service's Environmental Project Scientist for Climatic Change, has been appointed to the Fairfax County (Va.) Air Pollution Control Board. Dr. Mitchell's term will expire in September 1974.

Anniversary of March 1962 Storm Noted

Ten years ago--on March 5, 1962-- a winter storm of tremendous force began to lash the U.S. east coast from Florida to New England. It lasted five days, killed 33 people, injured 1,252, and caused an estimated 200 million dollars in damage. Rampaging wind and water destroyed 1,793 dwellings, severely damaged 2,189, and lightly damaged 14,593.

While extensive property damage from a storm of this magnitude is inevitable, no matter how early the warning and how accurate the forecast, human lives and some property now can be saved by prediction procedures developed since 1962 by the National Weather Service. These include the winter storm reconnaissance program, instituted in 1969, and the computerized system for predicting the height of damaging storm surges, put into effect on an experimental basis in October 1971. The result of these two programs should be additional hours of vital warning time, where in years past there was little or none.

DAVIDSON Personnel Are Commended

For their public service activities when the NOAA Ship DAVIDSON was berthed in



Reedsport, Oreg., recently, Commander Gerald C. Saladin (left), her commanding officer, her executive officer, Lieutenant Commander Darrel Crawford, and the ship's complement, have been commended by Commerce Department officials, including then Secretary Maurice H. Stans, NOAA Administrator Robert M. White, and National Ocean Survey Director Don A. Jones. The officials, and Senator Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon, commended them for leading a discussion in marine sciences with local educators and for the hospitality extended by the ship's officers and crew to students and teachers observing the vessel's scientific and support capabilities.

Items to be considered for publication in NOAA WEEK should be submitted to:
Office of Public Affairs, NOAA, Room 221, Bldg. 5, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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